

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

The following listing of claims replaces all previous claims, and listings of claims, in the application.

**Claim 1 (Currently Amended):** A warm molding raw material powder in powder metallurgy, comprising a ~~composition of~~ lubricant which consists of a hydroxy fatty acid salt having an average particle diameter of from 5  $\mu\text{m}$  to 100  $\mu\text{m}$  is in a range of from 0.3 wt% to 2 wt%.

**Claim 2 (Currently Amended):** A warm molding raw material powder in powder metallurgy, comprising a ~~composition of~~ lubricant which consists of a hydroxy fatty acid salt having an average particle diameter of from 5  $\mu\text{m}$  to 100  $\mu\text{m}$  is in a range of from 0.5 wt% to 2 wt%.

**Claim 3 (Cancelled)**

**Claim 4 (Previously Presented):** The warm molding raw material powder according to Claim 1, wherein the hydroxy fatty acid salt is a hydroxy stearic acid salt.

**Claim 5 (Original):** The warm molding raw material powder according to Claim 4, wherein the hydroxy stearic acid salt is hydroxy lithium stearate.

**Claim 6 (Original):** The warm molding raw material powder according to Claim 5, wherein the hydroxy lithium stearate is 12-hydroxy lithium stearate.

**Claim 7 (Currently Amended):** A warm molding method ~~performed~~ comprising the step of using the warm molding raw material powder according to Claim 1.

**Claim 8 (Currently Amended):** The warm molding method according to Claim 7, further comprising the step of:

~~wherein, in powder metallurgy, after a hydroxy fatty acid salt having an average particle diameter of 50  $\mu$ m or less is attached on a mold, further comprising the step of performing warm molding in the mold~~

attaching a powder of hydroxy fatty acid salt having an average particle diameter of 50 $\mu$ m or less on a forming surface of the mold before the warm molding raw material powder is filled in the mold.

**Claim 9 (Original):** The warm molding method according to Claim 8, wherein the hydroxy fatty acid salt is a hydroxy fatty acid lithium.

**Claim 10 (Original):** The warm molding method according to Claim 9, wherein the hydroxy fatty acid lithium is hydroxy lithium stearate.

**Claim 11 (Currently Amended):** The warm molding ~~raw-material-powder~~ method according to Claim 10, wherein the hydroxy lithium stearate is 12-hydroxy lithium stearate.